

the partial enclosure caused by the passive, non-sealing engagement between the lips inhibiting moisture vapor produced from warm food disposed in the warming chamber from building up in the warming chamber, which prevents warm food disposed in the warming chamber from becoming soggy and allows enough moisture vapor to remain in the warming chamber for keeping warm food disposed in the warming chamber moist.

3. (Amended) Apparatus of claim 2, wherein the insulating structure comprises a [substantial] pouch formed of engaged superimposed layers of cloth and insulating material.

8. (Amended) Apparatus for keeping food warm and moist comprising: [insulating structure supporting and substantially engulfing a substantially water impermeable pouch having a warming chamber for accommodating food, the pouch and the insulating structure together providing generally opposing and substantially coextensive lips capable of being moved apart for forming an opening leading to the warming chamber and that are constructed and arranged to normally loosely associate with one another for partially enclosing the warming chamber for forming a partial vapor lock for the warming chamber]

insulating structure supporting and substantially engulfing a substantially water impermeable pouch having a warming chamber for accommodating food;

the pouch and the insulating structure together providing generally opposing and substantially coextensive lips;

a passive, non-sealing engagement between the lips;

the passive, non-sealing engagement between the lips causing a partial enclosure of the warming chamber;

the partial enclosure caused by the passive, non-sealing engagement between the lips inhibiting moisture vapor produced from warm food disposed in the warming chamber from building up in the warming chamber, which prevents warm food disposed in the

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warming chamber from becoming soggy and allows enough  
moisture vapor to remain in the warming chamber for  
keeping warm food disposed in the warming chamber  
moist.

9. (Amended) Apparatus of claim 8, wherein the insulating structure comprises a [substantial] pouch formed of engaged superimposed layers of cloth and insulating material.

14. (Amended) Apparatus for storing and keeping food warm and moist comprising: [a soft and flexible insulated pouch having a substantially water impermeable warming chamber and a passive opening leading to the warming chamber]

a soft and flexible insulated pouch having a substantially water impermeable warming chamber and lips;

a non-sealing engagement between the lips causing a partial enclosure of the warming chamber;

the partial enclosure caused by the non-sealing engagement between the lips inhibiting moisture vapor produced from warm food disposed in the warming chamber from building up in the warming chamber, which prevents warm food disposed in the warming chamber from becoming soggy and allows enough moisture vapor to remain in the warming chamber for keeping warm food disposed in the warming chamber moist.

16. (Amended) Apparatus of claim 15, wherein the insulating structure comprises a [substantial] pouch formed of engaged superimposed layers of cloth and insulating material.

Clean copies of amended claims 1, 3, 8, 9, 14 and 16:

Sub B' 7 1. Apparatus for keeping food warm and moist  
comprising:

a pouch that bounds an insulated and  
substantially water impermeable food warming chamber;

the pouch having opposing substantially  
coextensive lips;

a passive, non-sealing engagement between the  
lips;

a 2 the passive, non-sealing engagement between the  
lips causing a partial enclosure of the warming  
chamber;

the partial enclosure caused by the passive, non-  
sealing engagement between the lips inhibiting  
moisture vapor produced from warm food disposed in the  
warming chamber from building up in the warming  
chamber, which prevents warm food disposed in the  
warming chamber from becoming soggy and allows enough  
moisture vapor to remain in the warming chamber for  
keeping warm food disposed in the warming chamber  
moist.

3 a 3. Apparatus of claim 2, wherein the insulating  
structure comprises a pouch formed of engaged superimposed  
layers of cloth and insulating material.

Sub B2 8. Apparatus for keeping food warm and moist  
comprising:

insulating structure supporting and substantially  
engulfing a substantially water impermeable pouch  
having a warming chamber for accommodating food;

the pouch and the insulating structure together  
providing generally opposing and substantially  
coextensive lips;

a passive, non-sealing engagement between the  
lips;

the passive, non-sealing engagement between the  
lips causing a partial enclosure of the warming  
chamber;

the partial enclosure caused by the passive, non-  
sealing engagement between the lips inhibiting  
moisture vapor produced from warm food disposed in the  
warming chamber from building up in the warming  
chamber, which prevents warm food disposed in the  
warming chamber from becoming soggy and allows enough  
moisture vapor to remain in the warming chamber for  
keeping warm food disposed in the warming chamber  
moist.

9. Apparatus of claim 8, wherein the insulating  
structure comprises a pouch formed of engaged superimposed  
layers of cloth and insulating material.

14. Apparatus for storing and keeping food warm and moist comprising:

a soft and flexible insulated pouch having a substantially water impermeable warming chamber and lips;

a 5 a non-sealing engagement between the lips causing a partial enclosure of the warming chamber;

the partial enclosure caused by the non-sealing engagement between the lips inhibiting moisture vapor produced from warm food disposed in the warming chamber from building up in the warming chamber, which prevents warm food disposed in the warming chamber from becoming soggy and allows enough moisture vapor to remain in the warming chamber for keeping warm food disposed in the warming chamber moist.

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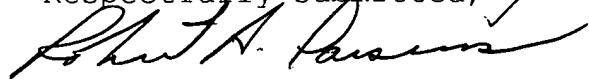
a 6 16. Apparatus of claim 15, wherein the insulating structure comprises a pouch formed of engaged superimposed layers of cloth and insulating material.

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Examiner's thorough and thoughtful consideration of this application is sincerely appreciated. Should there be any remaining issues, Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned for a speedy resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert A. Parsons", with a checkmark at the end of the signature.

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